[Translation]

MPLADS

5276. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA : Will the MINISTER FOR PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) the ceiling of cost for construction under the MPLADS and the measures provided for necessary modification therein; and

(b) the measures taken or being taken to provide secretarial assistance for effective implementation of the directions in regard to review the construction works ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) As per para 2.4 (c) of the guidelines on MPLADS, no individual work costing more than Rs. 10 lakhs can be taken up under MPLADS. There is no proposal, at present, under consideration of the Government to modify this cost ceiling.

(b) At present, no secretarial assistance has been provided to the District Collectors by the Central Government for implementation of the scheme. The Collectorates are using the existing machinery of DRDAs or the District Planning Office for the purpose. As regards the review of works taken up under the MPLAD Scheme, para 4.1. of the guidelines of the scheme provides that District Collectors should visit and inspect at least 10 per cent of the works every year for effective implementation of the works. Similarly, it is the responsibility of the senior officers of the implementing agencies of these works, to regularly visit these works and ensure that the works are proceeding statisfactorily as per the prescribed procedures and specifications. Likewise, officers of the district at the sub-divisional and block level are also to closely monitor implementation of these works through visits of work sites. The officers of DPI also visit the districts to have an inspection of the works, to the extent possible.

Navinagar Thermal Power Project in Bihar

5277. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the international tenders were invited for the Navinagar (Varun) Thermal Power Project of the State of Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a group of the South Korean Company visited India for the study of the Navinagar Thermal Power Project ; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. International bids have been invited for Request for Qualification through an advertisement placed in the newspapers on 30.8.1996 by the Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. on behalf of Ministry of Power, Government of India for setting up a 2000 MW coal based project (expandable to 3000 MW) at Nabinagar in Bihar.

(c) and (d) A South Koren team visited India to look for participation in setting up private power generation projects including Mega Projects. As per the policy of Government of India for development of Mega Power Projects in the private sector, the selection of the project promoter has to be done through competitive bidding. The South Korean team was, accordingly, advised to participate in the bidding process.

[English]

Unauthorised Colonies

5278. SHRI B.L. SHARMA 'PREM' : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of unauthorised colonies in Delhi and their total population as per the latest available information;

(b) out of (a) above, the number which have been recommened for approval by the Government of NCT, Delhi; and

(c) the latest position in regard to the approval of (b) above by the Central Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) : The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (GNCTD) have reported that no surey has been conducted recently to assess the total number of unauthorised colonies in Delhi and the population living therein. Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have recommended 1071 unauthorised colonies, existing as on 31.3.1993, for regularisation.

(c) In a Civil Writ Petition No. 4771/93 by Common Cause (Regd.) Society, the High Court of Delhi has restrained the respondents, including Union of India, from taking any further decision or action for regularising any unauthorised colony in Delhi till further orders. The matter is still subjudice.